

**SUMTER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

SUBJECT: **Proof of Publication of the Redistricting of the Board of Sumter County
Commissioner Districts Pursuant to the Florida Constitution and Florida
Statutes.**

REQUESTED ACTION: **Enter Proof of Publication into Minutes of Meeting.**

☒ Work Session (Report Only) **DATE OF MEETING:** 6/14/2011
☐ Regular Meeting ☐ Special Meeting

CONTRACT: ☒ N/A Vendor/Entity: _____
Effective Date: _____ Termination Date: _____
Managing Division / Dept: Planning

BUDGET IMPACT: _____

☐ Annual **FUNDING SOURCE:** _____
☐ Capital **EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT:** _____
☒ N/A

HISTORY/FACTS/ISSUES:

Article VIII, Section 1(e), Florida Constitution, and Chapter 124, Florida Statutes, requires each county to evaluate the results of each decennial Federal Census to reapportion the county commission districts.

Section 124.01(3) of Florida Statutes states:

“The board of county commissioners shall from time to time, fix the boundaries of the above districts so as to keep them as nearly equal in proportion to population as possible; provided, that changes made in the boundaries of county commissioner districts pursuant to this section shall be made only in odd-numbered years.”

On April 26, 2011, the Board approved the redistricting of the County Commissioner Districts consistent with Section 124.01(3), Florida Statutes. Pursuant to Section 124.02(1), the resolution and description of the new County Commissioner Districts was published on May 19, 2011, and May 26, 2011, in The Villages Daily Sun newspaper.

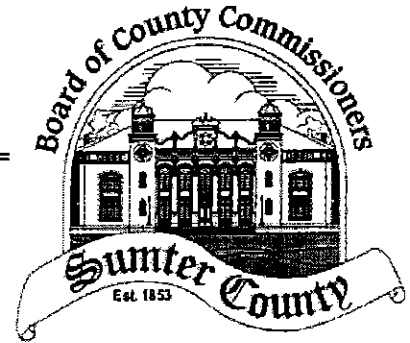
On May 31, 2011, the Clerk of the Court submitted the revised County Commissioner Districts to the Florida Department of State, as required by Section 124.03. The letter from the Clerk of the Court to the Florida Department of State is attached.

In accord with Section 124.02(3), Florida Statutes, the County must enter the proof of publication of the resolution and description of the new County Commissioner Districts in the minutes of a regular Board meeting. Attached is the proof of publication to be entered into the minutes.

Board of County Commissioners

Sumter County, Florida

7375 Powell Road • Wildwood, FL 34785 • Phone (352) 689-4400 • FAX: (352) 689-4401
Website: <http://sumtercountyfl.gov>



May 31, 2011

Department of State
Division of Elections, Director's Office
Room 316, R.A. Gray Building
500 South Bronough Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0250

CERTIFIED MAIL – RETURN RECEIPT
#7002 2030 0003 8230 3432

To Whom It May Concern:


On April 26, 2011 the Board of Sumter County Commissioners approved a Resolution changing the boundaries of the County Commissioners Districts for Sumter County. Per Florida Statutes §124.03, enclosed for your records is a certified copy of the minutes of this meeting along with a certified copy of the adopted resolution which reflects the description of the boundaries, as changed.

If there are any questions, please do not hesitate to contact our office.

Very truly yours,

BOARD OF SUMTER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

GLORIA R. HAYWARD
CLERK & AUDITOR

By 
Connie Webb
Deputy Clerk

Enclosures
c/Brad Cornelius, Planning & Development (w/o encl)

Richard "Dick" Hoffman, Dist 1
(352) 689-4400
7375 Powell Road
Wildwood, FL 34785

Doug Gilpin, Dist 2
2nd Vice Chairman
(352) 689-4400
7375 Powell Road
Wildwood, FL 34785

Don Burgess, Dist 3
Chairman
(352) 689-4400
7375 Powell Road
Wildwood, FL 34785

Garry Breeden, Dist 4
Vice Chairman
(352) 689-4400
7375 Powell Road
Wildwood, FL 34785

Randy Mask, Dist 5
Office: (352) 689-4400
Home: (352) 793-3930
7375 Powell Road
Wildwood, FL 34785

Bradley S. Arnold,
County Administrator
(352) 689-4400
7375 Powell Road
Wildwood, FL 34785

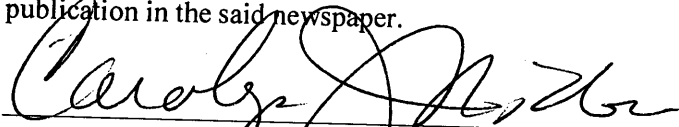
Gloria R. Hayward, Clerk & Auditor
(352) 793-0215
215 E. McCollum Avenue
Bushnell, FL 33513

County Attorney
The Hogan Law Firm
Post Office Box 485
Brooksville, Florida 34605

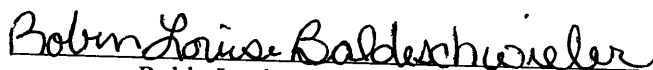
The Villages DAILY SUN

Published Daily
Lady Lake, Florida
State of Florida
County Of Lake

Before the undersigned authority personally appeared Carolyn J. Midora who on oath says that she is Legal Ad Coordinator of the DAILY SUN, a daily newspaper published at Lady Lake in Lake County, Florida with circulation in Lake, Sumter and Marion Counties; that the attached copy of advertisement, being a Legal Ad # 171595 in the matter of NOTICE OF CHANGE OF BOARD OF SUMTER COUNTY COMMISSIONER DISTRICTS, was published in said newspaper in the issues of MAY 19 2011 AND MAY 26 2011. Affiant further says that the said Daily Sun is a newspaper published at Lady Lake in said Lake County, Florida, and that the said newspaper has heretofore been continuously published in said Lake County, Florida each week and has been entered as second class mail matter at the post office in Lake Lake, in said Lake County, Florida, for a period of one year next preceding the first publication of the attached copy of advertisements; and affiant further says that he has neither paid nor promised any person, firm, or corporation any discount, rebate, commission or refund for the purpose of securing this advertisement for publication in the said newspaper.

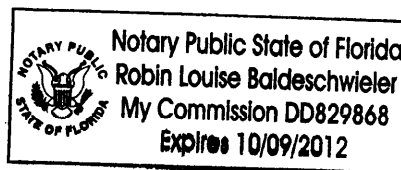

(Signature Of Affiant)

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 26 day MAY 2011.


Robin Louise Baldeschwieler, Notary

Personally Known X or
Production Identification _____
Type of Identification Produced _____

Attach Notice Here



NOTICE OF CHANGE OF BOARD OF SUMTER COUNTY COMMISSIONER DISTRICTS

Pursuant to Article VIII, Section 1(e), Florida Constitution, and Chapter 124, Florida Statutes, on April 26, 2011, the Board of Sumter County Commissioners approved a resolution to change the boundaries of the County Commissioner Districts. The resolution containing the new boundaries of the commissioner Districts was entered into the minutes of the regular meeting of the Sumter County Board of County Commissioners on April 26, 2011. Pursuant to Florida law, a certified copy of the boundaries of the new Commissioner Districts approved by the County Commissioners and entered into the minutes is attached hereto:

GLORIA R. HAYWARD
CLERK OF COURT

/s/ Connie Webb, Deputy Clerk

PUBLISH: MAY 19, 2011 and MAY 26, 2011

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
BOOK 127, PAGE 18
REGULAR MEETING
APRIL 26, 2011

04-26-11-3-f-2

3. Roadway Acceptance – Unit 167

This is a continuance of the acceptance of dedicated roadways constructed through the development process, subsequent to a two-year warranty period. The acceptance of Unit 167 will increase Sumter County's current roadway infrastructure by 0.70 miles. The roads accepted are Trout Court, Salmon way, Swordfish Terrace, and Triggerfish Run.

04-26-11-3-f-4

4. Adopt-A-Highway Litter Removal Agreement with Department of Health Tobacco Prevention Program: Students working Against Tobacco (SWAT) (Staff recommends approval).

04-26-11-3-f-4

5. Adopt-A-Highway Litter Removal Extension Agreement with Jumper Creek Ranch (Staff recommends approval).

04-26-11-3-f-5

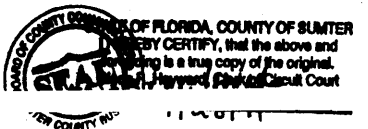
6. Resolution Approving the Redistricting of the Board of Sumter County Commissioner Districts Pursuant to the Florida Constitution and Florida Statutes (Staff recommends approval).

CLERK'S NOTE: A full copy of the proposed resolution with exhibits is attached and incorporated as part of the permanent minutes of this meeting. See document number 04-26-11-3-f-6.

Commissioner Mask commented on how much he enjoys serving the people of Sumter County and that he is in full support of the proposed redistricting even though it is affecting his district. Even though he will no longer be serving as the Commissioner for District 5, it is his desire to continue serving the citizens in other capacities.

Mr. Arnold advised that if this item is approved, Commissioner Hoffman and Commissioner Mask, who will both be affected, will fully serve their existing terms. This action will set in motion the district lines that will be pertinent for the 2012 election cycle.

04-26-11-3-f-6



RESOLUTION NO.: 2011-16

A RESOLUTION ON THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SUMTER COUNTY, FLORIDA, CHANGING THE COMMISSIONERS' DISTRICTS PURSUANT TO THE FLORIDA CONSTITUTION AND FLORIDA STATUTES, ENTERING SAID CHANGES INTO ITS MINUTES, AND PROVIDING THE PROPER NOTICES OF THE CHANGES AS REQUIRED BY LAW, AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Sumter County, Florida, has received Sumter County's decennial census information; and;

WHEREAS, Section 1(e), Article VIII, of the Florida Constitution provides that the Board of County Commissioners shall divide the county into districts of contiguous territory as nearly equal in population as practicable after each decennial census; and,

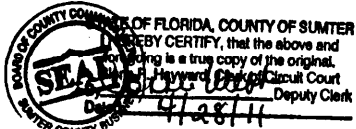
WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Sumter County, Florida, after reviewing the decennial census information for Sumter County, has determined that the existing commissioner's Districts must be changed in an effort to divide the districts into territories as nearly equal in population as practicable as required by the Florida Constitution, and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to Florida Statutes §124.02, whenever the Board of County Commissioners change the existing Commissioner's Districts, it shall cause an accurate description of the boundaries of such districts, as changed, to be entered upon its minutes and a certified copy thereof to be published at least once each week for two (2) consecutive weeks in a newspaper published in Sumter County; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Sumter County, Florida, hereby finds that changing the Commissioner's Districts is necessary to provide effective representation as well as to promote the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of Sumter County, Florida.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Sumter County, Florida, as follows:

- 1. Each of the WHEREAS clauses referenced above are hereby incorporated into this Resolution, in haec verba.
- 2. A description of the boundaries of the Commissioners' Districts, as changed, is attached to this Resolution as Exhibit "A", and is incorporated herein, in haec verba.



3. A map, depicting the boundaries of the Commissioner's Districts, as changed, is attached to this Resolution as Exhibit "B", and is incorporated herein, in haec verba.

4. The Boundary changes to the Commissioner's Districts reflected in Exhibits "A" and "B" of this resolution shall hereby be entered upon the minutes of the Board of County Commissioners of Sumter County, Florida.

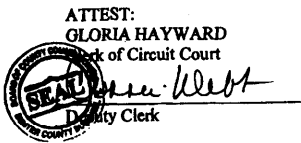
5. The boundaries of the Commissioner's Districts reflected in Exhibits "A" and "B" of this Resolution shall remain in place until specifically changed by subsequent action of the Board of County Commissioners of Sumter County, Florida.

6. The Board of County Commissioners of Sumter County, Florida,

shall cause a certified copy of the boundary changes reflected herein to be published as least once each week for two (2) consecutive weeks in a newspaper published in Sumter County, and furthermore, shall cause its Clerk to furnished the Department of State with a certified copy of its minutes, reflecting the description of the boundaries of its Commissioners' Districts, as changed.

7. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption by the Board of County Commissioners of Sumter County, Florida.

DONE AND RESOLVED THIS 26TH DAY OF APRIL 2011, AT THE VILLAGES, SUMTER COUNTY, FLORIDA.



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF SUMTER COUNTY, FLORIDA
Don Burgess, Chairman

EXHIBIT A
Sumter County – 2011 Redistricting

Legal Descriptions of New Board of Sumter County Commissioners Districts
District 1 –

Northern boundary: Intersection of Buena Vista Blvd and County Road 466, moving easterly on County Road 466 to the intersection of County Road 466 and the Sumter/Lake County border.

Eastern boundary: Intersection of County Road 466 and the Sumter/Lake County border moving southerly along the Sumter/Lake County border to the intersection of the Sumter/Lake County border and the Florida turnpike.

Southern boundary: Intersection of the Florida turnpike and the Sumter/Lake County border moving westerly along the Florida Turnpike to the intersection of the Florida Turnpike and County Road 468, then northerly on County Road 468 to the intersection of County Road 468 and State Highway 44, then westerly on State Highway 44 to the intersection of State Highway 44 and Buena Vista Blvd.

Western boundary: Intersection of State Highway 44 and Buena Vista Blvd moving northerly along Buena Vista Blvd to the intersection of Buena Vista Blvd and County Road 466.

EXHIBIT A
Sumter County – 2011 Redistricting

Legal Descriptions of New Board of Sumter County Commissioners Districts
District 2 –

Northern boundary: Intersection of Citrus/Sumter/Marion County borders, moving easterly along the Sumter/Marion County border to the intersection of the Sumter/Marion County border and US Highway 301.

Eastern boundary: Intersection is Sumter/Marion County border and US Highway 301 moving southerly on US Highway 301 to the intersection of US Highway 301 and County Road 468, continuing easterly along County Road 468 to the intersection of County Road 468 and the Florida Turnpike, continuing southeasterly along the Florida turnpike to the intersection of the Florida turnpike and the Sumter/Lake County border, continuing southerly along the Sumter/Lake County border to the intersection of the Sumter/Lake County border and County Road 48.

Southern boundary: Intersection of the Sumter/Lake County border and County Road 48 moving southerly to the intersection of County Road 48 and the Center Hill city limits to the intersection of the western Center Hill city limits and County Road 48, continuing westerly on County Road 48 to the intersection of County Road 48 and County Road 567, then northerly on County Road 567 to the intersection of County Road 567 and County Road 567 and state Road 471, continuing westerly, becoming County Road 476, westerly along County Road 476 to the intersection of County Road 476 and County Road 553, continuing northerly along County Road 553 to the intersection of County Road 553 and County Road 548, continuing westerly along County Road 548 to the intersection of County Road 548 and eastern boundary of Royal Crest Estates Sub-Division (PB 4, Page 91) continuing northerly along the eastern boundary of Royal Crest Estates Sub-Division (PB 4, Page 91) to the intersection of the eastern and northern boundary of Royal Crest Estates Sub-Division (PB 4, Page 91), continuing westerly along the northern boundary Royal Crest Estates Sub-Division (PB 4, Page 91) to the intersection of the northern boundary of Royal Crest Estates Sub-division (PB 4, Page 91) and US Highway 301.

Western boundary: Intersection of the northern boundary of Royal Crest Estates Sub-Division (PB 4, Page 91) and US Highway 301, moving northerly to the intersection of US Highway 301 and County Road 542, continuing westerly on County Road 542 to the intersection of County Road 542 and County Road 475, continuing northerly on County Road 475 to the intersection of County Road 475 and County Road 470, continuing westerly on County Road 470 to the intersection of County Road 470 and County Road 491, continuing southerly along County Road 491 to the intersection of County Road 491 and County Road 491 South, continuing westerly along County Road 491 South to the intersection of County Road 491 South and County Road 491 West, continuing northerly along County Road 491 West to the intersection of County Road 491 West and County Road 470, continuing westerly along County Road 470 to the intersection of County Road 470 and County Road 489, continuing along County Road 489 to the intersection of County Road 489 and County Road 482 North, continuing northerly on County Road 482 North to the intersection of County Road 482 North and County Road 470, continuing north westerly on County Road 470 to the intersection of County Road 470 and County Road 479, continuing westerly on County Road 479 to the intersection of County Road 479 and County Road 481, continuing southerly on County Road 481 to the intersection of County Road 481A to the intersection of County Road 481A and NW 13th Drive, continuing southerly on NW 13th Drive to the intersection of NW 13th Drive and NW 7th Lane, continuing westerly on NW 7th Lane to the intersection of NW 7th Lane and County Road 481A, continuing northerly on County Road 481A to the intersection of County Road 481A and County Road 481B, continuing easterly along County Road 481A to the intersection of County Road 481A and NW 14th Street, continuing northerly along NW 14th Street to the intersection of NW 14th Street and County Road 479, continuing westerly along County Road 479 to the intersection of County Road 479 and County Road 416, continuing northerly along County Road 416 to the intersection of County Road 416 and County Road 415, continuing westerly along County Road 415 and then northerly along County Road 415 to the intersection of County Road 415 and County Road 414, continuing westerly along County Road 414 to the intersection of County Road 414 and the Outlet River, continuing westerly along the Outlet River to the intersection of the Outlet River and the Sumter/Citrus County border. Intersection of the Outlet River and the Sumter/Citrus County border moving northerly along the Sumter/Citrus County border to the intersection of the Citrus/Sumter/Marion County borders.

Exhibit A

Sumter County - 2011 Redistricting

Legal Descriptions of New Board of Sumter County Commissioners Districts

District 3 –

Northern boundary: Intersection of County Road 101 and Sumter/Marion County border, moving easterly along the northern Sumter/Marion County

border to the intersection of the Sumter/Marion County/Lake County borders.

Eastern boundary: Intersection of Sumter/Marion County/Lake County border moving southerly along the Sumter/Lake County border to the intersection of Sumter/Lake County border and County Road 466.

Southern boundary: Intersection of Sumter/Lake County border and County Road 466 moving westerly to the intersection of County Road 466 and Buena Vista Blvd, then southerly along Buena Vista Blvd to the intersection of Buena Vista Blvd and Belvedere Blvd, then westerly along Belvedere Blvd to the intersection of Belvedere Blvd and the southern boundary of Villages Unit 104, then easterly along the southern border of Villages Unit 104 to the intersection of Villages Unit 104 and Oakbend Villas (Villages Unit 682), continuing along the southern border of Oakbend Villas (Villages Unit 682) to the intersection of Oakbend Villas (Villages Unit 692) and Villages Unit 104, continuing easterly along the southern border of Villages Unit 104 to the intersection of Villages Unit 104 and Tall Trees Lane, then northerly along Tall Trees Lane to County Road 466, crossing County Road 466 becoming Southern Trace, continuing northerly along Southern trace to the intersection of Southern Trace and Woodridge Drive, then westerly along Woodridge Drive to the intersection of Woodridge Drive and County Road 101.

Western boundary: Intersection of Woodridge Drive and County Road 101, moving northerly on County Road 101 to the intersection of County Road 101 and the Sumter/Marion County border.

Exhibit A

Sumter County - 2011 Redistricting

Legal Descriptions of New Board of Sumter County Commissioners Districts

District 4 –

Northern boundary: Intersection of Citrus/Sumter County border and the Outlet River, moving easterly along the Outlet River to the intersection of the Outlet River and County Road 414, continuing along County Road 414 to the intersection of County Road 414 and County Road 415, continuing southerly along County Road 415 and then easterly on County Road 415 to the intersection of County Road 415 and County Road 416, continuing southerly on County Road 416 to the intersection of County Road 416 and County Road 479, continuing easterly on County Road 479 to the intersection of County Road 479 and NW 14th Street, continuing southerly on NW 14th Street to the intersection of NW 14th Street and County Road 481B, continuing westerly on County Road 481B to the intersection of County Road 481B and County Road 481A, continuing southerly on County Road 481A to the intersection of County Road 481A and NW 7th Lane, continuing easterly on NW 7th Lane to the intersection of NW 7th Land and NW 13th Drive, continuing northerly on NW 13th Drive to the intersection of NW 13th Drive and County Road 481A, continuing easterly on County Road 481A to the intersection of County Road 481A and County Road 481, continuing northerly on County Road 481 to the intersection of County Road 481 and County Road 479, continuing easterly on County Road 479 to the intersection of County Road 479 and County Road 470, continuing southerly on County Road 470 to the intersection of County Road 470 and County Road 482 North, Continuing southerly on County Road 482 North to the intersection of County Road 482 North and County Road 489, continuing easterly on County Road 489 to the intersection of County Road 489 and County Road 470, continuing south easterly on County Road 470 to the intersection of County Road 470 and County Road 491 West, continuing southerly on County Road 491 West to the intersection of County Road 491 West and County Road 491 South, continuing easterly on County Road 491 South to the intersection of County Road 491 South and County Road 491, continuing northerly on County Road 491 to the intersection of County Road 491 and County Road 470 continuing south easterly on County Road 470 to the intersection of County Road 470 and County Road 475.

Continuing southerly on County Road 475 to the intersection of County Road 475 and County Road 452, continuing easterly on County Road 452 to the intersection of County Road 452 and US Highway 301, continuing southerly on US Highway 301 to the intersection of US Highway 301 and northern boundary of Royal Crest Estates Sub-Division (PB4, Page 91), continuing easterly along the northern boundary of Royal Crest Estates Sub-Division (PB4, Page 91) to the intersection of the northern and eastern boundary of Royal Crest Estates Sub-Division (PB4, Page 91), continuing southerly along the eastern boundary of Royal Crest Estates Sub-Division (PB 4, Page 91) to the intersection of the eastern boundary of Royal Crest Estates Sub-Division (PB 4, Page 91) and County Road 548, continuing easterly along County Road 548 to the intersection of County Road 548 and County Road 553, continuing southerly along County Road 553, to the intersection of County Road 553 and County Road 476, continuing easterly along County Road 476 to the intersection of County Road 476 and State Road 471, continuing easterly along County Road 567 to the intersection of County Road 567 and County Road 48, continuing easterly along County Road 48 to the intersection of County Road 48 and western boundary of the city limits of Center Hill, continuing northerly along the western boundary of the city limits of Center Hill to the intersection of the western boundary of the city limits of Center Hill and the northern boundary of the city limits of Center Hill, continuing easterly along the northern boundary of the city limits of Center Hill to the intersection of the northern boundary of the city limits of Center Hill and the eastern boundary of the city limits of Center Hill, continuing southerly along the eastern boundary of the city limits of Center to Hill to the intersection of the eastern boundary of the city limits of Center Hill and County Road 48, continuing northeasterly along County Road 48 to the intersection of County Road 48 and the Sumter/Lake County border.

Eastern boundary: Intersection of County Road 48 and the Sumter/Lake County border, moving southerly along the Sumter/Lake County border to the intersection of the Sumter/Lake County Border and the Sumter/Lake/Polk County border.

Southern boundary: Intersection of Sumter/Lake/Polk County border, moving westerly along the Sumter/Polk County border to the intersection of the Sumter/Pasco/Polk County borders.

Western boundary: Intersection of the Sumter/Pasco/Polk County borders, moving northerly along the Sumter/Pasco County border, continuing northerly along the Sumter/Hernando County border, continuing northerly along the Sumter/Citrus County border to the intersection of the Sumter/Citrus County border and the Outlet River.

Exhibit A

Sumter County - 2011 Redistricting

Legal Descriptions of New Board of Sumter County Commissioners Districts

District 5-

Northern boundary: Intersection of US Highway 301 and the Sumter/Marion County border moving easterly along the Sumter/Marion County border to the intersection of the Sumter/Marion County border and County Road 101.

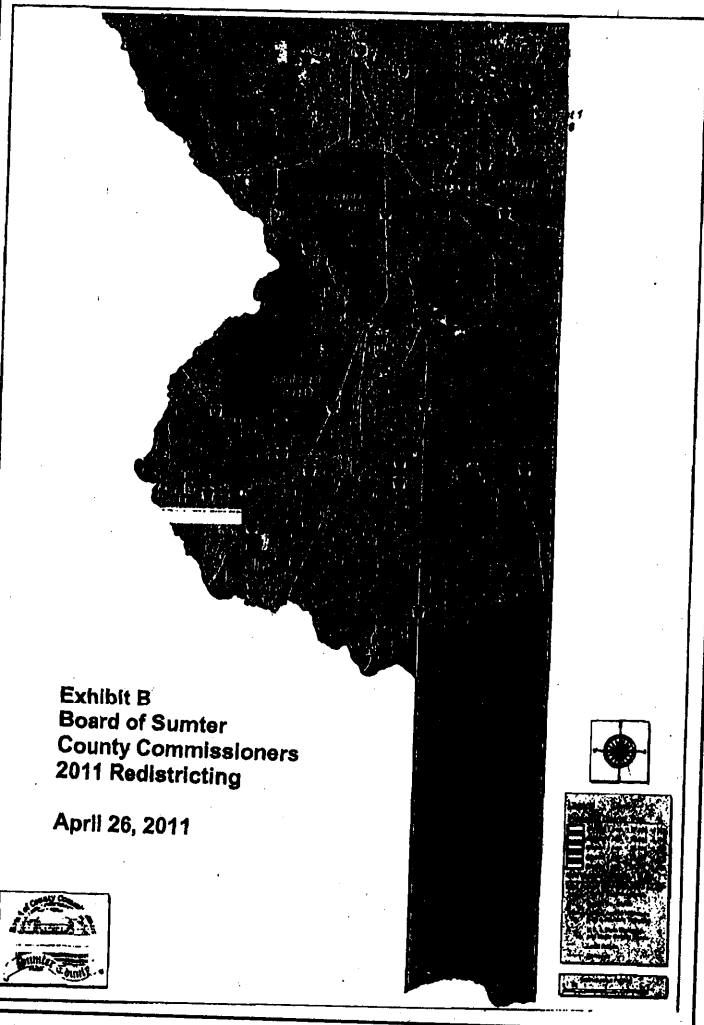
Eastern boundary: Intersection of Sumter/Marion County border and County Road 101, moving southerly to intersection of County Road 101 and Woodridge Drive, then easterly on Woodridge Drive to the intersection of Woodridge Drive and Southern Trace, then southerly on Southern Trace to the intersection of Southern trace and County Road 466, crossing southerly over County Road 466 and becoming Tall Trees Lane, continuing southerly on Tall Trees Lane to the intersection of Tall Trees Lane and the southern boundary Villages Unit 104, continuing westerly along the southern boundary of the Villages Unit 104 to the intersection of Villages Unit 104 and Oakbend Villas (Villages Unit 682), continuing westerly along the southern boundary of Oakbend Villas (Villages Unit 682) to intersection of

southern boundary of Oakbend Villas (villages Unit 682) and Villages Unit 104, continuing westerly along the southern border of Villages Unit 104 to the intersection of the southern border of Villages Unit 104 and Belvedere Blvd, continuing southerly and easterly along Belvedere Blvd to the intersection of Belvedere Blvd and Buena Vista Blvd, continuing southerly on Buena Vista Blvd to the intersection of Buena Vista Blvd and St. Charles Place, continuing westerly along St. Charles Place to the intersection of St. Charles Place and Bailey Trail, continuing southerly along Bailey Trail to the intersection of Bailey Trail and Buena Vista Blvd, continuing southerly along Buena Vista Blvd to the intersection of Buena Vista Blvd and County Road 466A, continuing easterly on County Road 466A to the intersection of County Road 466A and Morse Blvd, continuing southerly on Morse Blvd to the intersection of Morse Blvd and State Highway 44.

Southern boundary: Intersection of Morse Blvd and State Highway 44, moving westerly on State Highway 44 to the intersection of State Highway 44 and County Road 468, continuing southerly along County Road 468 to the intersection of County Road 468 and US Highway 301.

Western boundary: Intersection of County Road 468 and US Highway 301, moving northerly along US Highway 301 to the intersection of US Highway 301 and the Sumter/Marion County border.

EXHIBIT B



Salt Lake City

Former street preacher gets life in Smart case

be used and talking to other

Joplin, Mo.

Mo. town tu

Rescue crews still searching area for possible survivors

By NOMAAN MERCHANT
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

JOPLIN, Mo. — Rescue and recovery work in Joplin was shadowed by uncertainty Wednesday as crews still hoping to find survivors combed areas that had already been searched several times and engineers entered the battered Joplin hospital where the tornado killed five to see if it could be salvaged.

The death toll has reached at least 125, with 900 people hurt, from a mighty twister that the National Weather Service said was an EF5, the strongest rating assigned to tornadoes, with winds of more than 200 mph. But officials in the southwest Missouri city of 50,000 people say they still hope to find more survivors after two people were rescued from the rubble Tuesday.

"We are still in a search-and-rescue mode," said Mark Rohr, Joplin's city manager. "I want to emphasize that."

Tornadoes killed 14 in three states overnight, and warning sirens had Joplin's residents ducking for cover before the storm brushed past without serious problems. Rescue and recovery work continued Wednesday as more storms rolled into the area.

An eerie sense of calm gripped the streets, as police required residents and workers to have city-issued permits in order to drive in damaged areas. Residents began lining up at dawn for the permits, with some waiting for hours.

Hospital transport worker John Brewer sat on his porch on largely deserted 18th Street, blocks from one of the hardest hit areas, as his 7-year-old daughter Shashanah rode her bicycle on the sidewalk. The



Above: Sh
in Joplin, Mo.
Below: Uti
At least 12
path throu

